

**Conference on  
Emerging threats due to deteriorating Water Quality: Need for Action,**  
20 November 2018, Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi

**Press Release:**

Declining water quality and how it impedes social and economic development was the underlying theme at the **Conference on Emerging threats due to deteriorating Water Quality on 20th November 2018**. This conference covered links between declining water quality and how it correlates with economic development and the need to combat runoff pollution from urban and agricultural areas. India is currently facing an unprecedented threat towards water security in the form of increasing pollution of surface and groundwater bodies, nutrient overdose and climate change. These subjects require further attention and should be prioritized to ensure that a lack of water availability does not inhibit socio-economic development.

**Shri G. C. Pati, Member (East), Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation** highlighted that water is humanity's most vital resource and is relied upon in every economic sector. Greater investment is required to improve water quality and industrial effluents need to be treated to ensure that environmental havoc is not caused. He said that correct intervention along with judicious management is important for improving the quality of water. Mr. Pati went on to mention that currently there is widespread misuse, overuse and abuse of our water resources.

**Dr Ramesh Datla, Chairman CII National Committee on Water & MD, ELICO Ltd** spoke on the Water Quality Scenario and mentioned that water is vital for socio-economic development. Degradation of existing water supply has both health and pecuniary impacts. Protecting our freshwater resources is paramount for sustainable development.

**Dr Sushil Gupta, Former Chairman from Central Ground Water Board, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation** stressed upon the need to provide a legally binding framework for drinking water standards. He also spoke on food wastage that occurs during transportation and how that correlates to water wastage due to the water incurred in its production. More research and data analysis is required to determine declining water quality and these processes should involve local stakeholders. Holistic thought processes should be applied to fix these problems as our current methodology is inadequate.

**Professor A. K Keshri, IIT Delhi**, pitched applying water quality measures at earlier stages to ensure water bodies are protected before these bodies are polluted beyond control limits. He went on to recommend developing smart monitoring systems that analyze water quality regularly.

**Dr. Kapil Narula, Executive Director and CEO, CII Triveni Water Institute** spoke on the importance of water quality and how it could potentially be more important than water quantity. Greater attention is required on the link between water quality degradation with economic development and agricultural growth.

The Conference also witnessed some eminent speakers like **Dr Durjoy Chakraborty** Scientist Central Groundwater Board, **Mr Dan Alluf** Counsellor MASHAV Agriculture, **Dr Ajay Pradhan** President and CEO C2S2, **Mr Gyan Yadav / Ms Neha Saraogi** Product Manager – Water / Business Development Manager Tintometer India Pvt. Ltd, **Mr Sanjay Gupta** Senior Counsellor CII – Triveni Water Institute & **Mr KVSN Raju** President ELICO Ltd, **Mr Gaurav Mathur**, Head – Business Development (Building Services) Grundfos Pumps India Pvt. Ltd

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New Delhi